



# THE INTERIM

May 2010

A monthly newsletter of the Montana Legislative Branch

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The Interim, along with up-to-date information about interim committees, is also available on the Legislative Branch Website at [leg.mt.gov](http://leg.mt.gov).

**New on the Legislative Website!** You can find a number of selective resources related to state implementation of federal health reform at [leg.mt.gov](http://leg.mt.gov). Just click on the "Federal Health Care Reform" link under "What's New" on the home page.

## Districting & Apportionment Commission Hits the Road, Extends Time for Public Comment

The Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission originally planned to meet in late April to adopt the criteria it will use to redraw legislative districts following the 2010 census. But after a series of meetings held around the state last month, the commission decided to meet May 28 instead, to allow more time for written public comment.

Written comments will be accepted by mail, email, or fax until 5 p.m. May 14. Correspondence will be distributed to all commissioners and will become part of the commission's permanent record.

Send written comments to Districting and Apportionment Commission, Legislative Services Division, P.O. Box 201706, Helena, MT 59602-1706; by email to [districting@mt.gov](mailto:districting@mt.gov); or by fax to 406-444-3036.

## Commission Meets Around the State

The Districting and Apportionment Commission traveled around the state in April, gathering ideas from Montanans on how the five-member commission should redraw state legislative district boundaries. The commission met in Helena, Missoula, and Billings. Other citizens participated in the discussions at videoconferencing locations in Great Falls, Havre, Kalispell, and Miles City.

The meetings drew large audiences, and the commission heard passionate comments from various perspectives about how it should approach redistricting.

At the first meeting in Helena, the commission's legal staffer discussed the importance of districting criteria for both the congressional and state legislative redistricting process. The commissioners are required to adopt certain criteria that are set out in the U.S. and Montana Constitutions and in rulings by

various courts. For example, the 2000 Districting and Apportionment Commission adopted four mandatory criteria for state legislative plans:

- **Population equality and maximum population deviation:** All legislative districts must be as nearly equal in population as is practicable within a maximum deviation of no more than plus or minus 5 percent from the ideal population of 9,022 persons.
- **Compact and contiguous districts:** Each district shall consist of a compact and contiguous territory. The commission will use a general appearance test regarding compactness and consider its functional compactness in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography.
- **Protection of minority voting rights and compliance with the Voting Rights Act:** No district, plan, or proposal for a plan is acceptable if it affords members of a racial or language minority group “less opportunity than other members of the electorate to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice.”
- **Race:** Race cannot be the predominant factor to which the traditional discretionary criteria are subordinated.

The current commission may also adopt discretionary criteria to guide the mapping process. Once adopted, the commission should apply the same criteria to each district it creates. The 2000 Districting and Apportionment Commission adopted three discretionary criteria for state legislative plans:

- **Following the lines of political units:** The commission will consider the boundary lines of counties, cities, towns, school districts, Indian reservations, voting precincts, and other political units to the extent that they are reflected in the geographical database. If the lines do not follow lines in the geographical database, they can provide guidance.
- **Following geographic boundaries:** Districts lines will be drawn as provided in the TIGER/Line files of the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Keeping communities of interest intact:** The

commission will consider keeping communities of interest intact. Communities of interest can be based on trade areas, geographic location, communication and transportation networks, media markets, Indian reservations, urban and rural interests, social, cultural and economic interests, or occupations and lifestyles.

### Next Commission Meeting May 28

The commission will meet May 28 at 10 a.m. in Room 137 of the Capitol. The meeting will be broadcast online at [leg.mt.gov](http://leg.mt.gov) and on the state public access television network TVMT. To find the local TVMT channel, visit [leg.mt.gov/tvmt](http://leg.mt.gov/tvmt).

For details on commission meetings, agendas, and other information, and to sign up for email updates about the commission, please visit [leg.mt.gov/districting](http://leg.mt.gov/districting).

For more information about the Districting and Apportionment Commission, contact commission staff Rachel Weiss, 406-444-5367 or [rweiss@mt.gov](mailto:rweiss@mt.gov); Joe Kolman, 406-444-9280 or [jkolman@mt.gov](mailto:jkolman@mt.gov); or Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, 406-444-4024 or [ljackson@mt.gov](mailto:ljackson@mt.gov).

### Economic Affairs Committee Prompts Feedback Regarding Livestock, Work Comp

A formal vote to send a letter to the state Board of Livestock and unanimous agreement to submit bill draft requests on three workers' compensation topics highlighted the Economic Affairs Interim Committee meeting March 30-31. A subcommittee looking into workers' compensation and private health care information also voted to request a bill draft to allow employers to get enough information to help bridge an injured worker's return to work.

#### Panel Asks for Comments from Livestock Board

The letter to the Board of Livestock asked for comments on three subjects under consideration by the committee.

First, a work group recommended that the Board of Livestock start over on a January order establishing a designated surveillance area for brucellosis in cattle. The work group said the new order should comply with the

Montana Environmental Policy Act and should have a sunset date for the surveillance area.

Livestock producers who participated in the work group said they were concerned that they would face stricter testing requirements, regardless of whether their cattle tested negative for brucellosis, for an undetermined length of time based solely on their proximity to Yellowstone National Park. A copy of the work group's recommendations are on the committee website at [leg.mt.gov/eaic](http://leg.mt.gov/eaic).

Second, the committee is considering a proposal to use part of the \$1 for each head of cattle sold in Montana that now goes to the national and state beef check-off program to help maintain Montana's brucellosis-free status, perhaps by helping to pay for some testing in the designated surveillance area.

Finally, the committee has prepared a draft report for SJR 14 that examines state laboratories in Bozeman and Helena to determine whether new facilities are needed and, if so, whether any space, equipment, or personnel could be shared by the labs.

The study included an evaluation of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (operated by the Montana Department of Livestock), the Wildlife Laboratory (operated by the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks), and the Analytical Laboratory (operated by the Department of Agriculture), all in Bozeman, plus the Environmental Laboratory and the Public Health Laboratory, both operated by the Department of Public Health and Human Services in Helena.

The committee specifically asked for comments from the Board of Livestock regarding potential funding of the labs through use of Build America Bonds. It also asked for information on whether the Analytical Lab and the State Grain Lab in Great Falls could improve efficiencies through a joint facility, or whether other communities should be able to bid on a joint laboratory.

### **Workers' Compensation Study**

As part the SJR 30 study of workers' compensation, the committee learned that Montana benefits generally are

comparable with those in other states but Montana has higher overall payouts, especially for medical claims.

The Labor Management Advisory Council (LMAC) of the state Department of Labor and Industry reported tentative agreements on proposals for claim closure, which is common in most other states. In Montana, claims close for medical benefits (except for those related to a prosthesis) if the injured worker has not visited a doctor for 60 consecutive months.

The LMAC proposal would provide more certainty as to when claims close and allow settlements of medical claims, which currently are discouraged unless the claims are disputed. A third proposal would clarify what is considered to be an injury in the course and scope of employment.

A workers' compensation subcommittee met March 30 to review what kind of information an employer may receive from an insurer or health care provider regarding an injured worker. Although insurers and health care providers may discuss an injured worker's condition among themselves, they are reluctant to share information with the employer because of constraints on distribution of private health information under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Without adequate information, an employer may be reluctant to put an injured worker back to work for fear the worker might face further complications. Yet research indicates that the earlier that an injured worker can safely return to work, the better the prognosis is for recovery (and the lower the experience rating for pricing premiums). The subcommittee asked for feedback on the proposal and plans to schedule a conference call to discuss the proposed language.

The committee also heard from two injured workers, one of whom described the difficulties of living on limited benefits and the delays in getting payments while being unable to return to work. The other described a smooth process for getting benefits and returning to work. Materials related to benefits, particularly as they compare with other states similar to Montana, are available on the committee website at [leg.mt.gov/eaic](http://leg.mt.gov/eaic).

## Insurance and Auto Body Repair

The committee heard about problems experienced by auto-body repair shops when they try to get the State Auditor's Office to investigate allegations that insurance companies steer work to specific repair shops. Such a practice would violate state law (33-18-221, MCA), which provides that insurers cannot designate specific repair shops. A representative of the State Auditor's Office said the office is reluctant to investigate complaints unless they are made by the insured parties seeking repairs because of privacy concerns related to insurance policy information. The committee asked for more information at the next meeting.

The committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. May 25 and 8 a.m. May 26 in Room 137 of the Capitol. It is expected to consider whether the state could save money on the \$18 million paid for workers' compensation by self-insuring or insuring with private insurers and not the Montana State Fund. For an agenda, see the committee website at [leg.mt.gov/eaic](http://leg.mt.gov/eaic).

## Local Government Committee Explores Costs, Challenges of Preserving the Past

As requested in HJR 32, the members of the Education and Local Government Interim Committee are familiarizing themselves with Montana's historic preservation programs, including how they are organized and funded and the challenges they face. The committee is tasked with developing recommendations to maximize the programs' effectiveness.

In a time of declining revenue and fiscal austerity, it may be difficult to consider dedicating state money to rehabilitate a vacant building, help revitalize a downtown area, or maintain a site of cultural significance.

Appropriate funding for education is a perennial problem for local officials and legislators, and, although historic preservation programs do not directly fund education, preservation advocates maintain that historic sites are valuable educational resources and that anything that can shore up local economies will benefit communities and, in turn, school systems.

Regardless of how legislators decide to spend state dollars, a basic understanding of Montana's historic preservation programs (and a perspective on how other states fund and organize preservation entities) will provide a foundation for ELG recommendations in this arena.

Historic preservation programs in Montana state government are located in five agencies: the Departments of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; Administration; and Commerce; and the Montana Arts Council and Historical Society. They are funded with state general fund money (both one-time-only and ongoing), long-range building funds, coal severance tax and bed tax revenue, fees, grants, and federal money.

For a summary of these programs, visit the committee website at [leg.mt.gov/elgic](http://leg.mt.gov/elgic) and click on the March 12 meeting date.

ELG will continue to examine historic preservation funding and organization, among other local government and education-related issues, at a meeting June 11. More information will be provided in the June issue of *The Interim* and at [leg.mt.gov/elgic](http://leg.mt.gov/elgic).

## Energy Committee Wrapping Up Study of Montana Energy Policy

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee will meet May 13 and begin to wrap up its review of Montana energy policy.

The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. in Room 172 of the Capitol. ETIC members will develop a proposed draft energy policy and decide whether to pursue related legislation. In June, the public will be given a chance to comment on the draft energy policy and bill drafts, if the committee decides to move forward.

Over the past eight months, the ETIC has been engaged in an in-depth review of energy policy statements that are intended to promote a secure and well-maintained energy infrastructure, address technological developments in energy production and use, maximize the use of in-state sources of power, and promote energy efficiency and



conservation. Several draft statements, available on the ETIC website ([leg.mt.gov/etic](http://leg.mt.gov/etic)), have been approved for additional discussion in May.

At the meeting, the committee will first consider energy policy statements related to energy conservation and energy efficiency in new construction. In the afternoon, the committee will shift to a broader discussion of energy policy. The committee will use a matrix prepared by staff to review existing energy policy, proposed energy policy, and the need for legislative change in energy policy.

SB 290, enacted last session, requires the ETIC to review and possibly revise the current state energy policy. The legislation directed the committee to examine nine different topics:

- increasing the supply of low-cost electricity with coal-fired generation;
- rebuilding and extending electric transmission lines;
- maximizing the use of state land for energy generation;
- increasing energy efficiency standards for new construction;
- promoting conservation;
- promoting energy efficiency incentives;
- promoting alternative energy systems;
- reducing regulations that increase ratepayers' energy costs; and
- integrating wind energy.

The committee has examined these topics in detail and has hosted panel discussions on each one. The ETIC has also reviewed over 440 pages of public comment from about 200 people.

In addition to its energy policy discussion, the committee will learn more at the May meeting about Denbury Resources' recent purchase of Encore Acquisition Co.

The ETIC also will receive an update on implementation of legislation approved by the 2009 Legislature directing the state Board of Oil and Gas to develop rules for geologic carbon sequestration permitting and regulation

in Montana. Also on the agenda are a discussion of the "Call Before You Dig" program and stakeholder efforts to update those state laws and an update on the work of the Public Service Commission.

For more information, contact Sonja Nowakowski at [snowakowski@mt.gov](mailto:snowakowski@mt.gov) or 406-444-3078.

## Legislative Council to Meet June 2

The Legislative Council will meet Wednesday, June 2, in Room 102 of the Capitol. The Rules Subcommittee and the Legislative Space Subcommittee are scheduled to meet in the morning before the full council meeting.

For more information or to view agendas, minutes, and meeting materials, visit the council's website at [leg.mt.gov/legcouncil](http://leg.mt.gov/legcouncil), or contact Susan Byorth Fox at 406-444-3066 or [sfox@mt.gov](mailto:sfox@mt.gov).

Members of the Legislative Council are Reps. Dennis Himmelberger (chair), Bob Bergren, Margaret Campbell, Tom McGillvray, Jesse O'Hara, Mike Phillips, and Sens. Carol Williams (vice chair), John Brueggeman, Jeff Essmann, Mitch Tropila, Bob Story, and David Wanzenried.

## State Administration, Veterans' Affairs Committee to Hear Agency Bill Proposals

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA) met April 22-23; coverage of the meeting will be in the June newsletter.

As part of its agency oversight duties, the committee reviews legislative proposals from the state agencies it monitors. In June, state agencies will present their legislative concepts to the committee. Agency proposals must be ready by Friday, May 28. Committee staff will distribute the proposals to committee members before the June 24-25 meeting.

For more information about SAVA, visit [leg.mt.gov/sava](http://leg.mt.gov/sava) or contact Rachel Weiss at 406-444-5367 or [rweiss@mt.gov](mailto:rweiss@mt.gov).

## Water Marketing on Agenda for May 11-12 Meeting of Water Policy Committee

Water marketing in Montana will be debated by the Water Policy Interim Committee at its next meeting May 11-12 at the Capitol. The time and room number have not yet been determined.

At its March meeting, the committee asked Rep. Walt McNutt, who chairs the WPIC, and Sen. Dave Wanzonried, the vice chair, to lead a work group to talk about water marketing and other issues. The work group met in April and worked on a bill draft that would make pre-approved mitigation water available to offset new ground water uses in closed basins.

The bill draft will be discussed at the May meeting in addition to options for modifying the use of exempt wells, which are appropriations of water of less than 35 gallons a minute and 10 acre feet a year. In high-growth areas, some residents are concerned that the use of these wells, which are not subject to permitting, combined with the use of individual septic systems, is affecting water quantity and quality.

Another tentative item on the agenda is a tour of the north end of the Helena Valley to observe ground water testing and uses.

For more information, contact Joe Kolman at 406-444-9280 or [jkolman@mt.gov](mailto:jkolman@mt.gov). Or visit the committee website at [leg.mt.gov/water](http://leg.mt.gov/water).

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## Who's Subject to Open Records, Open Meetings Laws?

**By Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson**  
**Legislative Attorney**

Various public bodies, such as commissions, boards, and bureaus, are subject to Montana open records and open meetings laws if they fall under the definition of "agency" in Section 2-3-102, MCA.

Montana ranks near the top of states for the openness of its government in large part because of the Right of Participation (Article II, section 8) and Right to Know (Article II, section 9) provisions of the Montana Constitution.



For the purposes of public participation requirements, section 2-3-102, MCA, defines "agency" as any board, bureau, commission, department, authority, or officer of a state or local government that is authorized by law to make rules or enter into contracts (with the exception of any committee of the legislative or judicial branches or the state military establishment). Accordingly, the following principles and practices apply to the work of these agencies.

**Notice and Opportunity to Comment.** Agencies shall

permit and encourage citizen participation in decisions that are of significant public interest (2-3-103, MCA). This includes adequate advance notice of meetings and time for public comment during meetings.

**Open Meetings.** All meetings of an agency that is supported in whole or part by public funds must be open to the public, unless the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure. (2-3-203, MCA).

**Public Documents.** In Montana, every person has the right to inspect and copy public writings, which are the written records of official bodies and public officers (2-6-102, MCA). This would include all documents compiled, created, or in the possession of agencies, unless protected under confidentiality laws (2-6-110, MCA).

**Quorum for Meeting Purposes.** A "meeting" means the convening of a quorum of the agency, whether in person or by electronic means, to hear, discuss, or act upon a matter over which the agency has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power (2-3-202, MCA). A majority of agency members gathering together constitutes a quorum. Unless notice is given, discussion

of matters related to agency business by the quorum likely violates Montana's open meeting laws, which require work of the agency to be discussed in a public forum.

**Email.** Members of agencies (as defined in Section 2-3-102, MCA) should be careful about making decisions or discussing substantive issues by email, as this violates the public's right to know. Similarly, 2-6-202(1)(b), MCA, provides that emails relating to the transaction of official business are public records. Even if an

agency member is using a personal computer but has a government email address and is conducting public business with that email address, the emails are public record and subject to disclosure.

Under Article II, section 8, of the Montana Constitution, the people of Montana have a right to be afforded a reasonable opportunity to participate in the operation of governmental agencies prior to final decisions of the agency.

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## The Back Page

# Vive la Difference: A Demographic Profile of the Legislature

**By Susan Byorth Fox**  
**Legislative Services Division Director**

Montanans like to believe they're unique, but they also take comfort when they don't stray too far from the pack. The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) recently posted the results of a survey of the 2007 demographic characteristics of state legislatures. The survey reveals some interesting trends nationwide and in Montana.

## The Demographics

The survey shows that the Montana Legislature has some unique demographic characteristics when compared to other state legislatures, but it is similar in some ways as well. For example, Montana's racial and ethnic composition differs from the national average, and that composition is reflected in the makeup of the state Legislature. The Legislature is 94 percent Caucasian and 6 percent Native American – close to Montana's racial makeup, which also includes other races and mixed races. Members of state legislatures across the country are 86 percent Caucasian, 9 percent African-American, 3 percent Latino, 1 percent Asian, and 1 percent Native American.

The gender gap in state legislatures is not as wide as it used to be, but the percentage of women legislators is still well below their population numbers. In Montana,

49.9 percent of the population is male and 50.1 percent is female, but in the Montana Legislature, 74 percent are male and 26 percent are female. Nationwide, state legislators are 76 percent male and 24 percent female.

Although the median age of all Montanans is 39 years old, 49 percent of the members of the Legislature are 50-64 years old (baby boomers). Baby boomers are well-represented nationally, too (48 percent). Montana has a higher percentage of younger legislators 20-34 years old (8 percent), double the national average of 4 percent. Montana also has a higher percentage of legislators over 65 (33 percent) compared to the national average (24 percent).

## What Do Legislators Do for a Living?

Legislators are engaged in a wide variety of occupations when not embroiled in legislative activities. They work in the legal and health professions, and in business, financial services and real estate, agriculture, education and government, and the sciences; they are homemakers and retirees and students.

The occupations of state legislators have changed significantly over the past 40 years. The percentage of attorneys in state legislatures has fallen to 15.2 percent nationwide, down from 22.3 percent in 1976; in 2007, only 6 percent of Montana legislators were attorneys.

<b>Comparative Age Demographics - 2007*</b>		
<b>Age</b>	<b>Montana Legislature</b>	<b>All State Legislatures</b>
20-34	8%	4%
35-49	11%	25%
50-64	49%	48%
65 +	33%	24%

\* Source: National Conference of State Legislatures, <http://ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=14850>. Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

<b>Comparative Gender Demographics - 2007</b>		
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Montana Legislature</b>	<b>All State Legislatures</b>
Male	74%	76%
Female	26%	24%

Nationwide, 16.4 percent of legislators said they were full-time legislators. In Montana, 8.7 percent indicated they were full-time legislators, even though the Legislature is in session only four months of every two years. This indicates that the responsibilities of the job can fill the time one has available.

Educators account for 3.9 percent of all legislators nationally. The percentage of Montana legislators in education is about the same at 4 percent, with another 2 percent being college educators.

Nationally, 1 percent of all legislators are state employees, compared to 2 percent in Montana. Another 3.4 percent of the state's legislators are local government employees, compared to 1.4 percent nationwide. This indicates that in Montana, a low-population state with fewer economies of scale, more residents are government employees – 18.2 percent of the population compared with 14.4 percent nationwide.

Legislators involved in business make up 21.4 percent of the Montana Legislature, compared with 20.7 percent of legislators nationwide. In Montana, this includes business owners (16.1 percent), executives or managers (4 percent), and non-managers (1.3 percent).

Nationally, the representation of business people is a bit different: 9.2 percent are business owners, 8.7 percent are executives or managers, and 2.8 percent are non-managers.

In Montana, 11.4 percent of legislators work in agriculture, compared with 5.3 percent nationwide, down from 9.7 percent in 1976.

In 1993, homemakers accounted for 1.3 percent of all state legislators, but that number fell to 0.6 percent in 2007. Likewise in Montana, homemakers accounted for less than 1 percent of the legislative membership in 2007. Since more women have entered the workforce in the past 40 years, women tend to be represented in the other occupational categories.

In 2007, the percentage of legislators in the field of medicine was about the same in Montana (4 percent) as in the nation as a whole (3.6 percent). In 1986, only 1.8 percent of all state legislators were in this field.

Retirees are becoming more prominent in state legislatures; their representation has risen from 6.7 percent in 1986 to 11.7 percent in 2007. The percentage of retirees in the Montana Legislature was even higher in 2007 (15.4 percent). This is indicative of the state's older population. In addition, many working people may simply not be able to afford taking off long stretches of time (four to six months every two years) to serve in the Legislature.

### Getting Political

The NCSL survey also tabulated political party affiliation. Nationwide, 55 percent of legislators are Democrats, 44 percent are Republicans, and 1 percent are listed as "other." In Montana, 51.3 percent of legislators are Republicans and 48.6 percent are Democrats. There were no third-party legislators last session, but there have been in the recent past. Given the number of third-party candidates running for the Montana Legislature this year, the Legislature may have third-party members next session.



## Educational Attainment

In an NCSL blog called “The Thicket at State Legislatures” (April 16, 2010), Morgan Cullen reported that educational levels are higher among state legislators than the general population. That conclusion was based on information gathered from Project Vote Smart by Professor Adam Brown at Brigham Young University.

Data show that 71 percent of all state legislators have at least a bachelor’s degree and 40 percent have advanced degrees. Cullen noted that “full-time legislators have the largest percentage of at least bachelor’s degrees at 79 percent.”

About 56 percent of Montana legislators reported having a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared with the average of 66 percent for part-time legislatures. However, Montana shows a higher percentage of legislators with an “unknown” education than nationally, 30 percent versus 12 percent. Depending on the level of education in the unknown category, Montana legislators may be close to or above the national average of legislators with college degrees. In Montana, doctor’s, master’s, bachelor’s, and associate’s degrees parallel the national numbers, but the percentage of legislators with law degrees and high school graduates are lower in Montana. However, given the large percentage of “unknowns,” these may also be higher than the actual numbers indicate.

Cullen said members of Congress have even more education, with 95 percent of the members of the U.S. House and Senate having at least a four-year degree.

According to the numbers, state legislators and members of Congress have more education than the populations they represent. The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in 2007, 27 percent of the adult population 25 years old or older had a bachelor’s degree or higher. Montanans are right at the national average at 27.5 percent. Ninety percent of Montanans 25 years old or older have at least a high school degree compared with the national average of 84.5 percent.

## Diversity among Elected, Electorate

The NCSL survey shows some of the unique characteristics of Montana legislators as well as their similarities with members of state legislators nationally. The Montana Legislature is a representative body, but Montanans choose legislators on the basis of how well they meet the aspirations of the people who elect them rather than on the basis of statistical similarities. The Montana Legislature is diverse in age, gender, culture, occupation, and educational attainment. This combination makes for an interesting setting for the next election and legislative session.

For more information on demographic and other characteristics of state legislators, visit the NCSL website at [ncsl.org](http://ncsl.org). Cullen’s article, “High Education Levels among State Legislators throughout United States,” is available at [ncsl.typepad.com/the\\_thicket](http://ncsl.typepad.com/the_thicket). The article may also be accessed from the NCSL website.

Demographics buffs can get more information from the U.S. Census Bureau: American Community Survey for Montana 2006-2008, and “Educational Attainment in the United States: 2007,” by Sarah Crissey, Current Population Reports, January 2009.

Comparative Occupation Data - 2007*		
Occupation	Montana Legislature	All State Legislatures
Agriculture	11.4%	5.3%
Business	21.4%	20.7%
Education	4%	3.9%
Law	6%	15.2%
Local Govt.	3.4%	1.4%
Medicine	4%	3.6%
Retired	15.4%	11.7%
State Govt.	2%	1%

\* Figures do not add up to 100% because not all occupations are represented here. Category for state government represents employment other than as a legislator.

**All interim committee meetings are held in the Capitol in Helena unless otherwise noted.**

May 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Environmental Quality Council, 9 am, Rm 172	7 Environmental Quality Council, 8 am, Rm 172	8
9	10	11 Water Policy Comm, time TBA, Rm 152	12 Water Policy Comm, time TBA, Rm 152	13 Energy & Telecomm Comm, 8 am, Rm 172	14	15
16	17	18	19 State Admin & Veterans Affairs Comm, time TBA, Rm 172	20	21	22
23	24	25 Economic Affairs Comm, 8:30 am, Rm 137	26 Economic Affairs Comm, 8 am, Rm 137	27	28 Districting & Apportionment Commission, 10 am, Rm 137	29
30	31					

**You can find the most up-to-date information  
about legislative interim committee meetings  
on the Legislative Branch website**

**leg.mt.gov**

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June 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Legislative Council, time TBA, Rm 102	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Education & Local Govt Comm, time and place TBA	12
13	14 Legislative Finance Comm, 8 am, Rm 172 Teachers Institute on Representative Democracy, 1 pm, Capitol	15 Teachers Institute on Representative Democracy, 8 am, Capitol	16 Teachers Institute on Representative Democracy, 8 am, Capitol	17	18	19
20	21	22 Legislative Computer System Planning Council, 9 am, Rm 102	23 Legislative Audit Comm, time TBA, Rm 172	24 State Admin & Veterans Affairs Comm, time & place TBA	25 State Admin & Veterans Affairs Comm, time & place TBA	26
27	28 Children, Families, Health & Human Services Comm, time and place TBA	29 Law & Justice Comm, time and place TBA	30 Law & Justice Comm, time and place TBA			

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